

THE AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a metastatic colorectal cancer-associated transcript in a cell from a patient, the method comprising contacting a biological sample from the patient with a polynucleotide that selectively hybridizes to a sequence at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~a sequence as shown in Tables 1-26.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample comprises ~~isolated~~ nucleic acids.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide is labeled.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide is immobilized on a solid surface.
5. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a polynucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~Tables 1-26.~~
6. (Original) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 5.
7. (Original) A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 6.
8. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having polynucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~as shown in Tables 1-26.~~
9. (Original) An antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide of claim 8.
10. (Currently Amended) The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody ~~which~~ is an antibody fragment.
11. (Currently Amended) The antibody of claim 10, wherein the antibody ~~which~~ is a humanized antibody

12. (Original) A method of detecting a metastatic colorectal cancer cell in a biological sample from a patient, the method comprising contacting the biological sample with an antibody of claim 9.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the antibody is labeled.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting antibodies specific to metastatic colorectal cancer in a patient, the method comprising contacting a biological sample from the patient with a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid comprising polynucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~from Tables 1-26.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound that modulates a metastatic colorectal cancer-associated polypeptide, the method comprising the steps of:

- (i) contacting the compound with a metastatic colorectal cancer-associated polypeptide, the polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that selectively hybridizes to a sequence at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~a sequence as shown in Tables 1-26;~~; and
- (ii) determining the functional effect of the compound upon the polypeptide.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the functional effect is determined by measuring ligand binding to the polypeptide.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting proliferation of a metastatic colorectal cancer-associated cell to treat colorectal cancer in a patient, the method comprising the step of administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound that modulates a polypeptide encoded by a sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~Tables 1-26.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A drug screening assay comprising the steps of

- (i) administering a test compound to a mammal having colorectal cancer or a cell isolated therefrom;
- (ii) comparing the level of gene expression of a polynucleotide that selectively hybridizes to a sequence at least 80% identical to a sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 ~~Tables 1-26.~~ in a treated cell or mammal with the level of gene expression of the polynucleotide

in a control cell or mammal, wherein a test compound that modulates the level of expression of the polynucleotide is a candidate for the treatment of colorectal cancer.

19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a mammal having colorectal cancer, the composition comprising a compound identified by the assay of claim 18 and a physiologically acceptable excipient.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of detecting a metastatic colorectal cancer-associated polypeptide in a cell from a patient, the method comprising contacting a biological sample from the patient with an antibody that specifically binds a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having polynucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:29 or 31 Tables 1-26.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~21~~20, wherein the antibody is labeled.